

NORTH CAROLINA

Violent Death
Reporting System
Robeson County 2004 – 2007

March 2010

North Carolina
Injury & Violence
PREVENTION Branch

Division of Public Health

Background and Acknowledgements

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded state-wide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths for which intent could not be determined. NC-VDRS is a multi-source system that gathers information from death certificates, medical examiner reports, and law enforcement reports. The goal of this system is to aid researchers, legislators, and community interest groups in the development of public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths. NC-VDRS began collecting data in January, 2004. This document summarizes findings from Robeson County, North Carolina that occurred from 2004 to 2007.

A Statewide Annual Report for 2007 will be completed by summer of 2010. More information can be found at: www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm.

The task of locating, abstracting, entering, and evaluating the data that are used to create the NC-VDRS is challenging, time-consuming and difficult. The extent and quality of the data in this report are the direct result of the dedication of the NC-VDRS staff: Tammy Norwood, Program Manager, and Susan Autry and Pat Jones, Statistical Research Assistants.

Thanks to Sharon Schiro for the analysis and programming of the NC-VDRS data, and Becca Byrd for the formatting and updating of this report.

Three advisory groups provided assistance to us with this report. The leadership of these advisory groups formed the Board Leadership & Evaluation Team (BLET). Members of the BLET for 2007 were Tamera Coyne-Beasley, Kay Sanford, Phillip J. Cook, Sandra Martin, Steve Marshall, and Anna Waller.

We acknowledge the assistance and on-going support of the N.C. State Center for Health Statistics, the N.C. Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation, as well as the many local law enforcement agencies throughout N.C. that have provided information to the NC-VDRS.

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SECTION I: OVERALL

Table 1: Gender, Race, and Age Group of Violent Death Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007					
		Number	%	Rate	CI
Gender					
	Male	160	84.2	64.9	54.8 – 75.0
	Female	30	15.8	11.6	7.5 - 15.7
Race					
	American Indian	78	41.1	39.7	30.9 - 48.5
	Asian	1	0.5	*	*
	Black	44	23.2	35.6	25.1 - 46.1
	White	67	35.3	36.8	28.0 - 45.6
Hispanic					
	Hispanic	11	5.8	28.9	11.8 – 46.0
	Non-Hispanic	179	94.2	38.3	32.7 - 43.9
Age Group					
	< 1	1	0.5	*	*
	1 - 4	1	0.5	*	*
	5 - 9	0	0	*	*
	10 - 14	2	1.1	*	*
	15 - 19	20	10.5	50.8	28.5 - 73.1
	20 - 24	39	20.5	105.9	72.7 - 139.1
	25 - 34	49	25.8	68.2	49.1 - 87.3
	35 - 44	28	14.7	40.4	25.4 - 55.4
	45 - 54	20	10.5	29.6	16.6 - 42.6
	55 - 64	10	5.3	19.5	7.4 - 31.6
	65 - 74	13	6.8	44.3	20.2 - 68.4
	75 - 84	7	3.7	40.2	10.4 – 70.0
	85 +	0	0	*	*
Total Deaths		190	100		

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Overall Violent Death Rates by Gender and Race,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

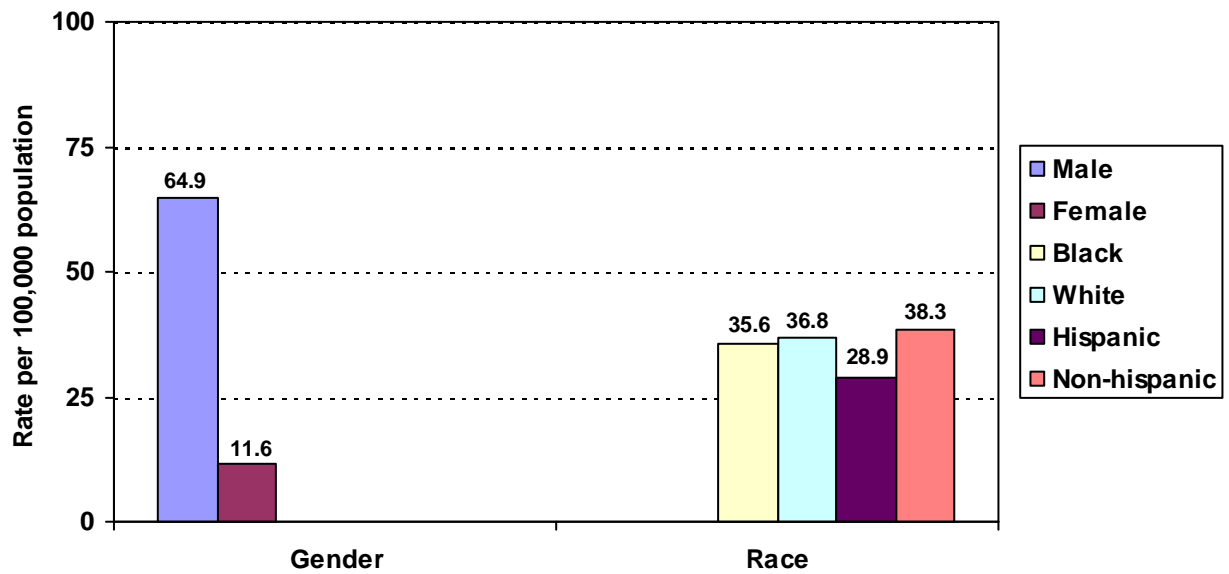
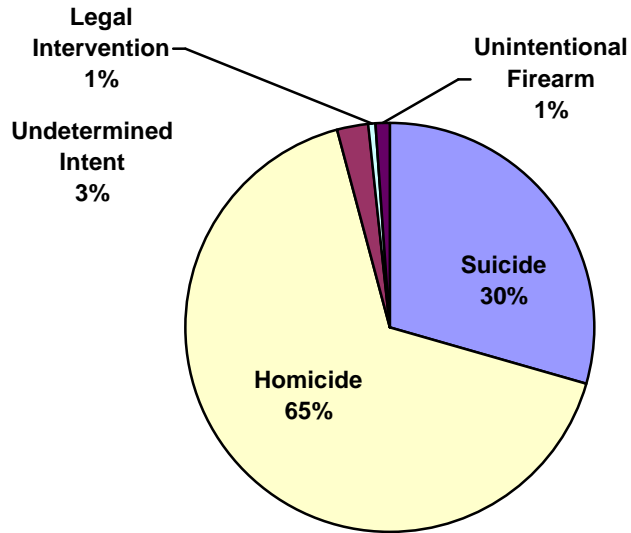


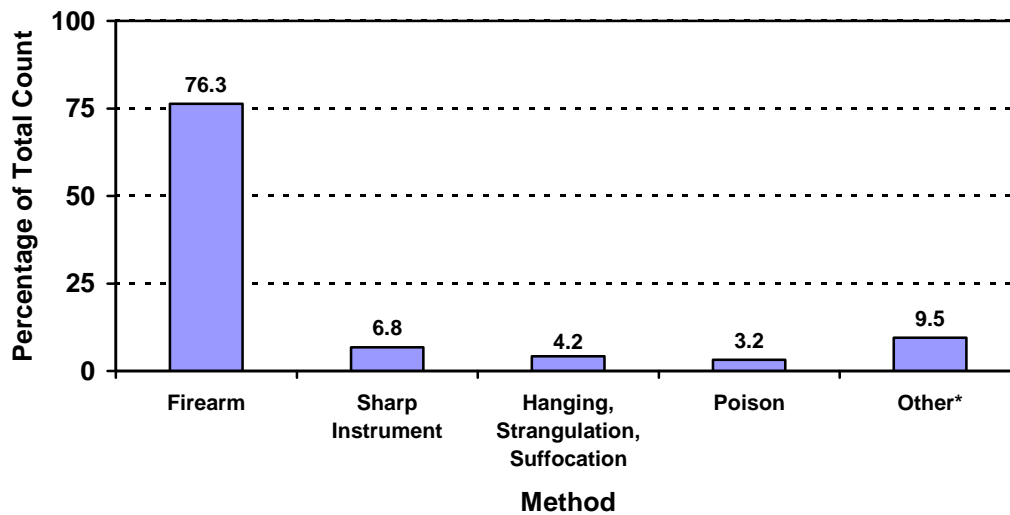
Table 2: Manner and Method of Violent Death Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

		Number	%
Manner of Death			
	Homicide	126	66.3
	Suicide	56	29.5
	Undetermined Intent	5	2.6
	Unintentional Firearm	2	1.1
	Legal Intervention	1	0.5
Method			
	Firearm	145	76.3
	Sharp Instrument	13	6.8
	Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation	8	4.2
	Poisoning	6	3.2
	Unarmed Assault	5	2.6
	Blunt Instrument	4	2.1
	Fire or Burns	3	1.6
	Other Transport Vehicle	3	1.6
	Fall	1	0.5
	Motor Vehicle	1	0.5
	Unknown	1	0.5
Total Deaths		190	100

Manner of Violent Death, Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007



Method of Death for Overall Violent Deaths, Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007



* Other methods include: blunt instruments, unarmed assaults, falls, drowning, fires or burns, violent shaking, motor vehicles, other transport vehicles, intentional neglect and other unspecified methods.

Table 3: Race by Gender of Violent Death Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Race										
American Indian	67	41.9	70.9	53.9 - 87.9	11	36.7	10.8	4.4 - 17.2	78	41.1
Asian	1	0.6	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	0.5
Black	38	23.8	65.3	44.6 – 86.0	6	20.0	9.2	1.9 - 16.5	44	23.2
White	54	33.8	58.7	43 - 74.4	13	43.3	14.5	6.6 - 22.4	67	35.3
Total Deaths	160	100			30	100			190	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Race by Gender of Violent Death Victims,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

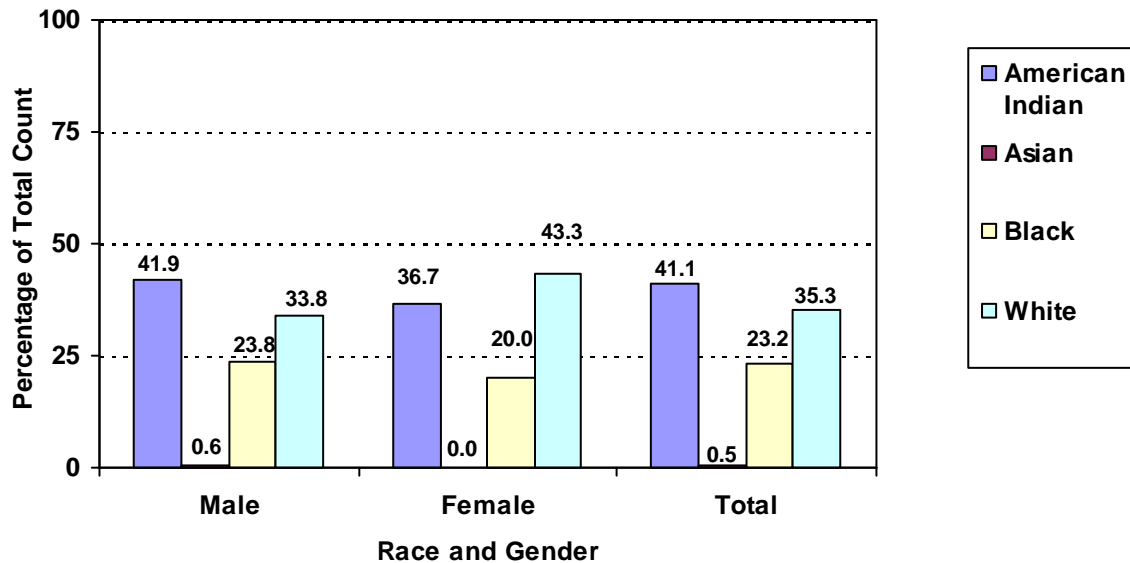
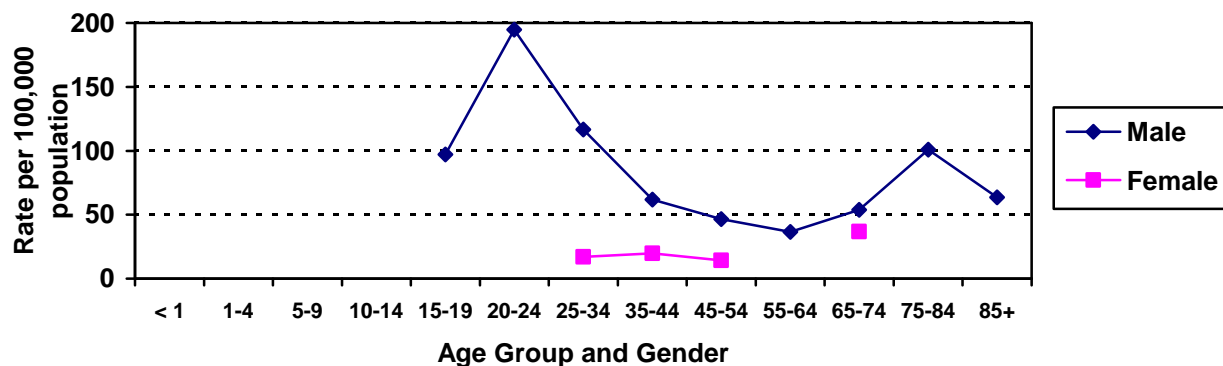


Table 4: Age Group by Gender of Violent Death Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Age Group										
< 1	1	0.6	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	0.5
1 - 4	0	0	*	*	1	3.3	*	*	1	0.5
5 - 9	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	*	0	0
10 - 14	2	1.3	*	*	0	0	*	*	2	1.1
15 - 19	19	11.9	97.0	53.4 - 140.6	1	3.3	*	*	20	10.5
20 - 24	37	23.1	194.7	132 - 257.4	2	6.7	*	*	39	20.5
25 - 34	43	26.9	116.7	81.8 - 151.6	6	20.0	17.1	3.4 - 30.8	49	25.8
35 - 44	21	13.1	61.9	35.4 - 88.4	7	23.3	19.8	5.1 - 34.5	28	14.7
45 - 54	15	9.4	46.5	23.0 - 70.0	5	16.7	14.2	1.8 - 26.6	20	10.5
55 - 64	9	5.6	36.5	12.6 - 60.4	1	3.3	*	*	10	5.3
65 - 74	7	4.4	53.7	13.9 - 93.5	6	20.0	36.9	7.4 - 66.4	13	6.8
75 - 84	6	3.8	100.9	20.2 - 181.6	1	3.3	*	*	7	3.7
85 +	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	*	0	0
Total Deaths	160	100			30	100			190	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Overall Violent Death Rates by Age Group and Gender of Victims,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



Note: Some values are zero or not available due to low count so the lines appear "broken".

SECTION II: SUICIDE

Table 5: Gender, Race, and Age Group of Suicide Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

		Number	%	Rate	CI
Gender					
	Male	48	85.7	23.2	16.6 - 29.8
	Female	8	14.3	3.6	1.1 - 6.1
Race					
	American Indian	11	19.6	6.8	2.8 - 10.8
	Asian	0	0	*	*
	Black	5	8.9	4.8	0.6 - 9.0
	White	40	71.4	25.4	17.5 - 33.3
Hispanic					
	Hispanic	1	1.8	*	*
	Non-Hispanic	55	98.2	13.7	10.1 - 17.3
Age Group					
	10 - 14	0	0	*	*
	15 - 19	7	12.5	17.8	4.6 - 31.0
	20 - 24	12	21.4	32.6	14.2 - 51.0
	25 - 34	6	10.7	8.4	1.7 - 15.1
	35 - 44	7	12.5	10.1	2.6 - 17.6
	45 - 54	9	16.1	13.3	4.6 - 22.0
	55 - 64	4	7.1	*	*
	65 - 74	7	12.5	23.9	6.2 - 41.6
	75 - 84	4	7.1	*	*
	85 +	0	0	*	*
Total Deaths		56	100		

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Suicide Rates by Gender and Race,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

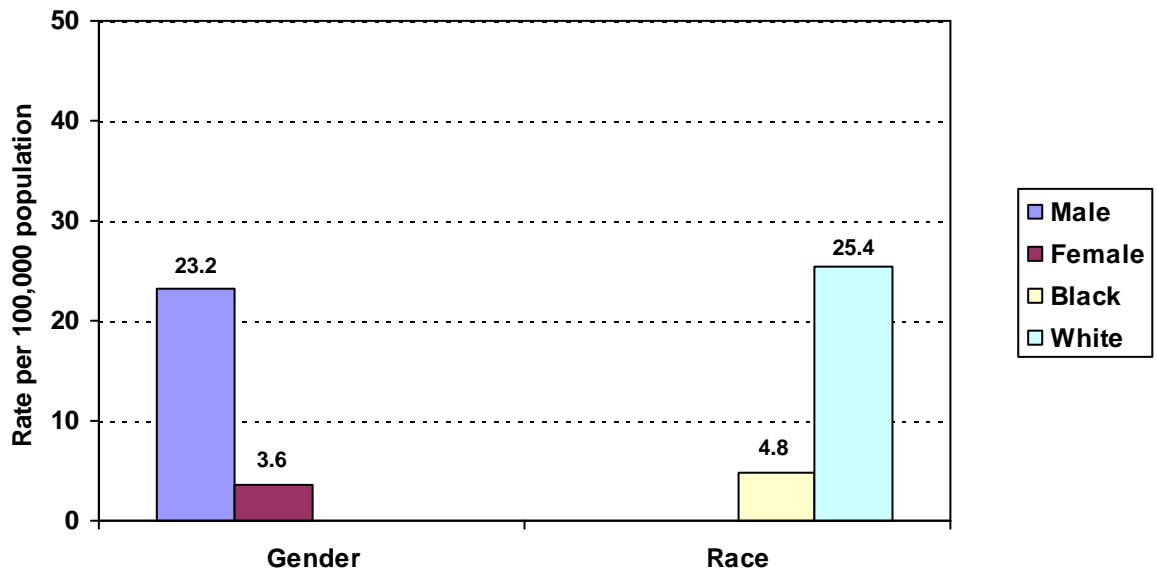
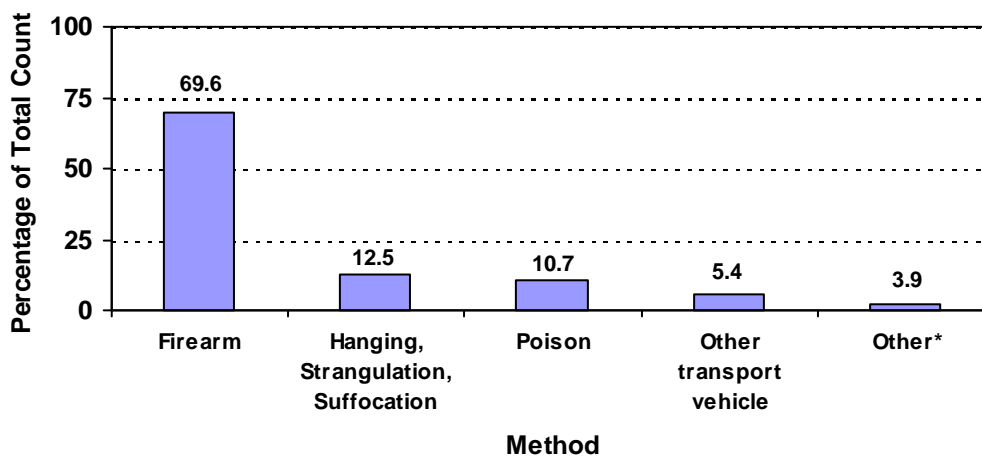


Table 6: Method of Death for Suicide Deaths in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007			
		Number	%
Method			
	Firearm	39	69.6
	Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation	7	12.5
	Poisoning	6	10.7
	Other Transport Vehicle	3	5.4
	Fire or Burns	1	1.8
Total Deaths		56	100

**Method of Death for Suicide Deaths,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



* Other methods include: blunt instruments, unarmed assaults, fires or burns, motor vehicle, falls, violent shaking, intentional neglect, and other unspecified methods.

Table 7: Race by Gender of Suicide Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Race										
American Indian	10	20.8	12.9	4.9 - 20.9	1	12.5	*	*	11	19.6
Black	5	10.4	10.3	1.3 - 19.3	0	0	*	*	5	8.9
White	33	68.8	41.5	27.3 - 55.7	7	87.5	9.0	2.3 - 15.7	40	71.4

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Race by Gender of Suicide Victims,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

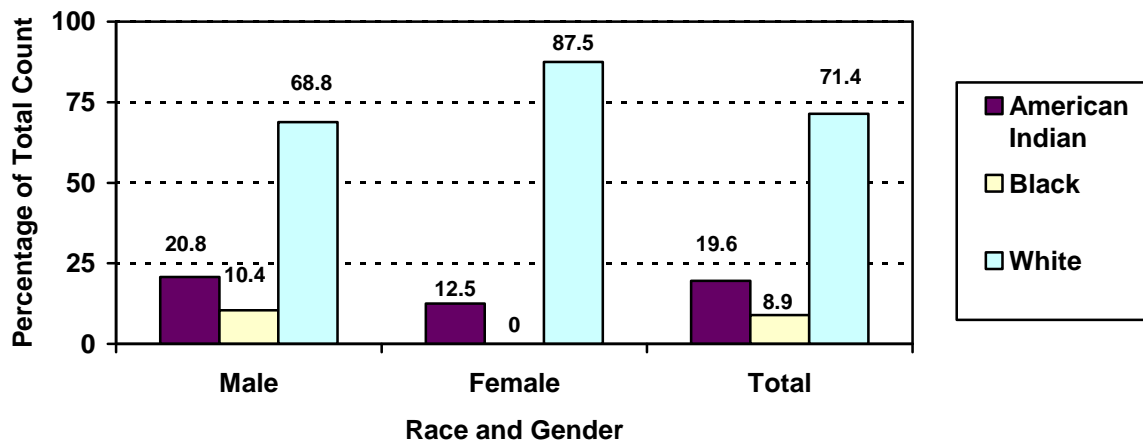
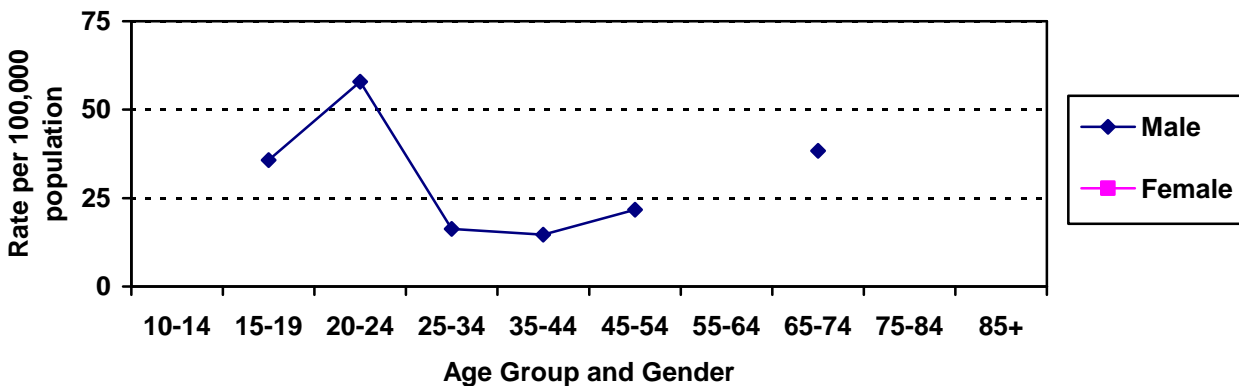


Table 8: Age Group by Gender of Suicide Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Age Group										
10 - 14	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	*	0	0
15 - 19	7	14.6	35.7	9.2 - 62.2	0	0	*	*	7	12.5
20 - 24	11	22.9	57.9	23.7 - 92.1	1	12.5	*	*	12	21.4
25 - 34	6	12.5	16.3	3.3 - 29.3	0	0	*	*	6	10.7
35 - 44	5	10.4	14.7	1.8 - 27.6	2	25.0	*	*	7	12.5
45 - 54	7	14.6	21.7	5.6 - 37.8	2	25.0	*	*	9	16.1
55 - 64	3	6.3	*	*	1	12.5	*	*	4	7.1
65 - 74	5	10.4	38.4	4.8 - 72	2	25.0	*	*	7	12.5
75 - 84	4	8.3	*	*	0	0	*	*	4	7.1
85 +	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	*	0	0
Total Deaths	48	100			8	100			56	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Suicide Rates by Age Group and Gender of Victims,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



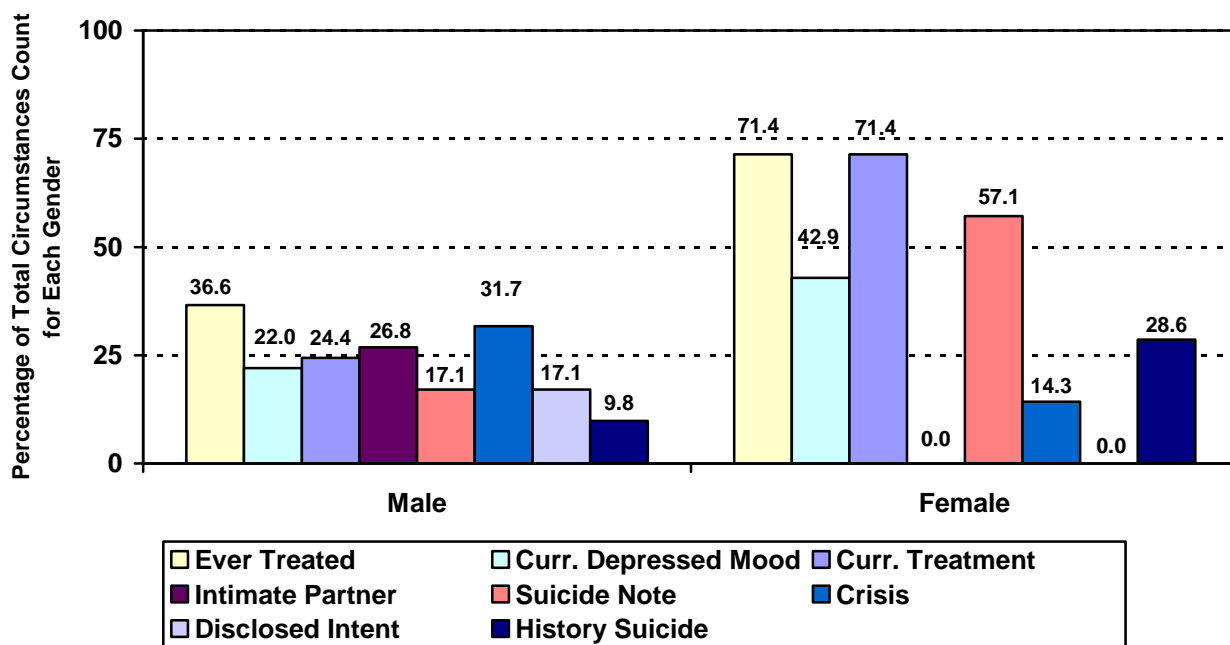
Note: Some values are zero or not available due to low count so the lines appear "broken".

Table 9: Circumstances of Suicide Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Victim Circumstances						
Current depressed mood	9	22.0	3	42.9	12	25.0
Current treatment for mental illness	10	24.4	5	71.4	15	31.3
Ever treated for mental illness	15	36.6	5	71.4	20	41.7
Alcohol problem	2	4.9	0	0	2	4.2
Other substance problem	7	17.1	1	14.3	8	16.7
Left a suicide note	7	17.1	4	57.1	11	22.9
Disclosed intent to commit suicide	7	17.1	0	0	7	14.6
History of suicide attempts	4	9.8	2	28.6	6	12.5
Crisis in past two weeks	13	31.7	1	14.3	14	29.2
Physical health problem	5	12.2	2	28.6	7	14.6
Intimate partner problem	11	26.8	0	0	11	22.9
Other relationship problem	5	12.2	1	14.3	6	12.5
Job problem	1	2.4	1	14.3	2	4.2
School problem	1	2.4	0	0	1	2.1
Financial problem	2	4.9	0	0	2	4.2
Suicide of family or friend in past 5 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other death of friend/ family	1	2.4	0	0	1	2.1
Recent criminal/ legal problem	3	7.3	0	0	3	6.3
Other legal problems	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perpetrator of interpersonal violence in past month	5	12.2	0	0	5	10.4
Victim of interpersonal violence in past month	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Circumstances are only available for 1,000 of the 1,085 suicide deaths where age was ≥ 10 . The denominator of the percentage is the total number of suicide victims for each gender category who had circumstance data available. Each suicide victim may have 0 to many circumstances.

**Circumstances by Gender for Suicide Victims,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



* Note: Multiple options are available therefore such responses add up to more than 100%. This figure does not include all circumstances.

Table 10: Mental Illnesses Under Treatment at the Time of Suicide in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007			
	Male	Female	Total
	Number	Number	Number
Mental Illness			
Depression/ Dysthymia	13	5	18
Anxiety Disorder	0	2	2
Bipolar Disorder	1	0	1
Schizophrenia	1	0	1
Other	1	0	1

SECTION III: HOMICIDE

Table 11: Gender, Race, and Age Group of Homicide Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007					
		Number	%	Rate	CI
Gender					
	Male	107	84.9	43.4	35.2 - 51.6
	Female	19	15.1	7.3	4.0 - 10.6
Race					
	American Indian	63	50.0	32.1	24.2 – 40.0
	Asian	1	0.8	*	*
	Black	37	29.4	29.9	20.3 - 39.5
	White	25	19.8	13.7	8.3 - 19.1
Hispanic					
	Hispanic	10	7.9	26.3	10.0 - 42.6
	Non-Hispanic	116	92.1	24.8	20.3 - 29.3
Age Group					
	< 1	1	0.8	*	*
	1 - 4	1	0.8	*	*
	5 - 9	0	0	*	*
	10 - 14	1	0.8	*	*
	15 - 19	13	10.3	33.0	15 – 51.0
	20 - 24	27	21.4	73.3	45.6 – 101.0
	25 - 34	41	32.5	57.1	39.6 - 74.6
	35 - 44	17	13.5	24.6	12.9 - 36.3
	45 - 54	10	7.9	14.8	5.6 – 24.0
	55 - 64	6	4.8	11.7	2.3 - 21.1
	65 - 74	6	4.8	20.5	4.1 - 36.9
	75 - 84	3	2.4	*	*
	85 +	0	0	*	*
Total Deaths		126	100		

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

Homicide Rates by Gender and Race, Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

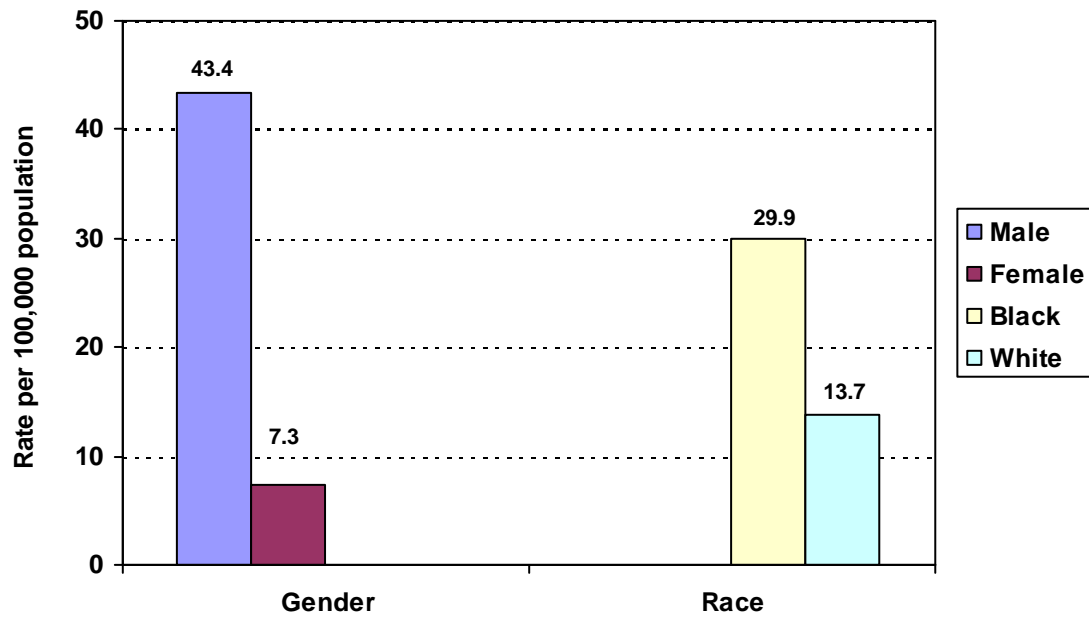
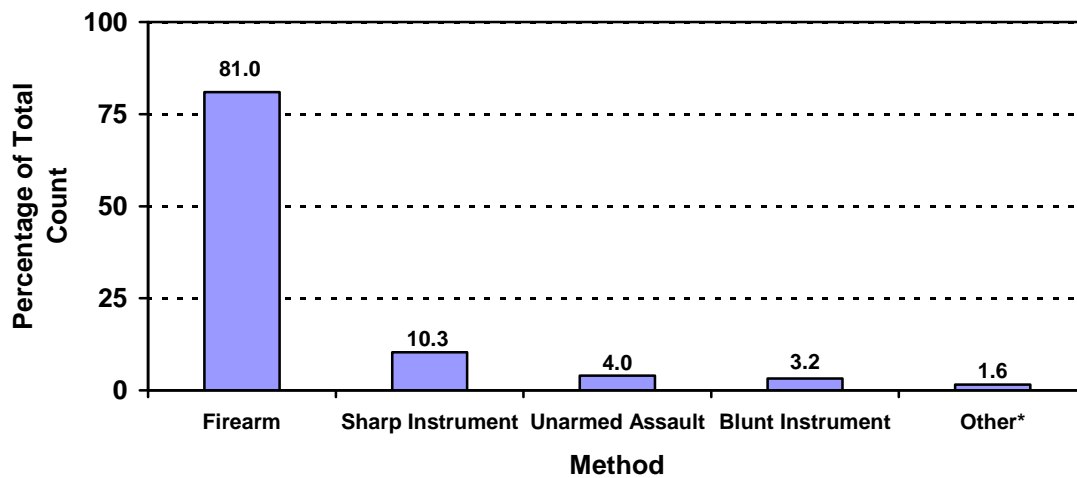


Table 12: Method of Death for Homicide Deaths in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

Method		Number	%
	Firearm	102	81.0
	Sharp Instrument	13	10.3
	Unarmed Assault	5	4.0
	Blunt Instrument	4	3.2
	Fire or Burns	1	0.8
	Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation	1	0.8
Total Deaths		126	100

Method of Death for Homicide Deaths, Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007



* Other methods include: fires or burns, drowning, motor vehicle, falls, violent shaking, intentional neglect, and other unspecified methods.

Table 13: Race by Gender of Homicide Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Race										
American Indian	53	49.5	56.1	41.0 - 71.2	10	52.6	9.8	3.7 - 15.9	63	50.0
Asian	1	0.9	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	0.8
Black	33	30.8	56.7	37.4 - 76.0	4	21.1	*	*	37	29.4
White	20	18.7	21.8	12.3 - 31.3	5	26.3	5.6	0.7 - 10.5	25	19.8

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Race by Gender of Homicide Victims,
Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

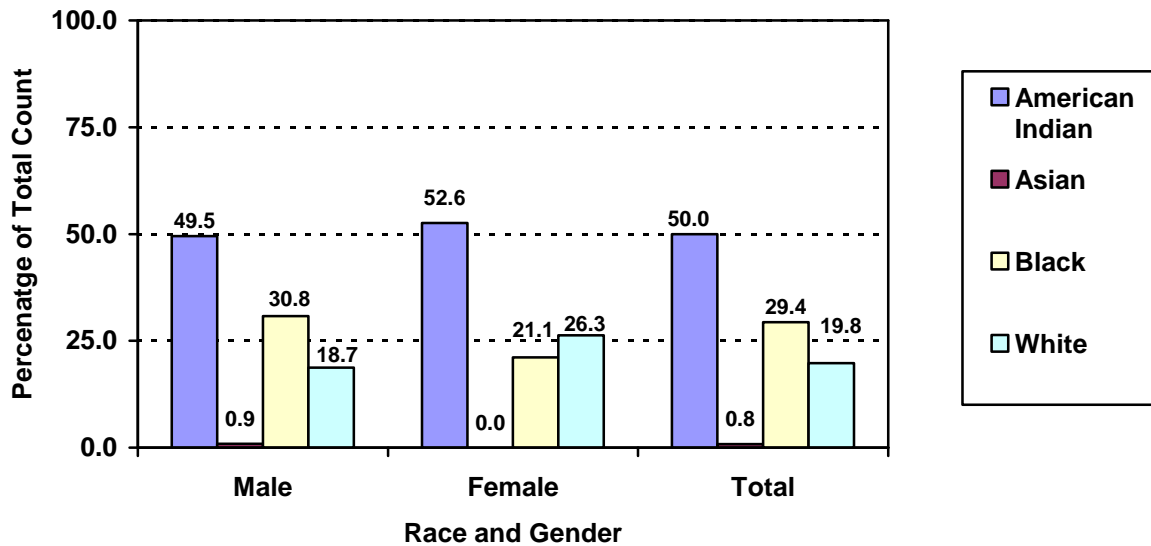
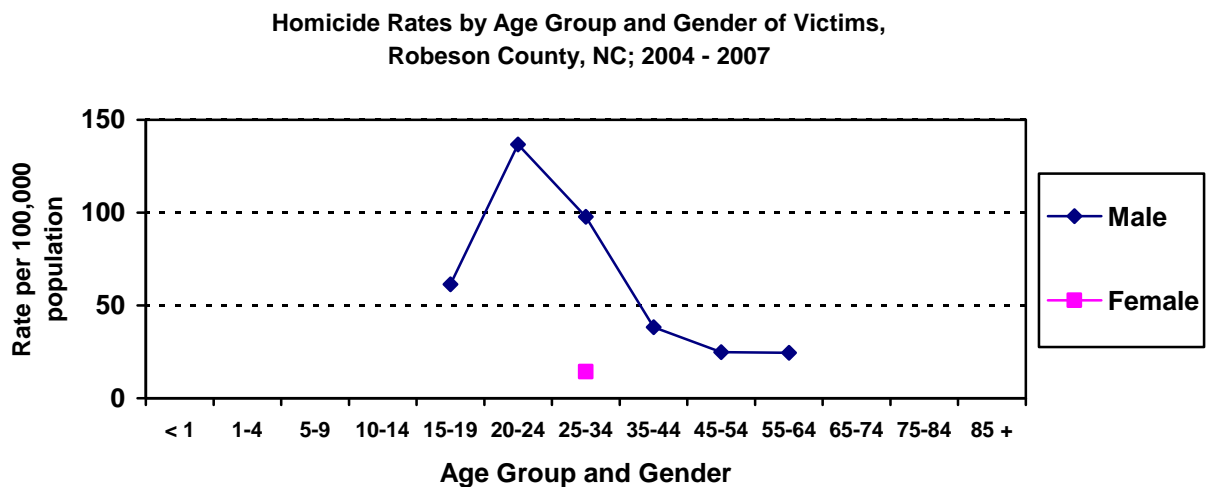


Table 14: Age Group by Gender of Homicide Victims in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Age Group										
< 1	1	0.9	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	0.8
1 - 4	0	0	*	*	1	5.3	*	*	1	0.8
5 - 9	1	0.9	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	0.8
10 - 14	12	11.2	61.3	26.6 – 96.0	1	5.3	*	*	13	10.3
15 - 19	26	24.3	136.8	84.2 - 189.4	1	5.3	*	*	27	21.4
20 - 24	36	33.6	97.7	65.8 - 129.6	5	26.3	14.3	1.8 - 26.8	41	32.5
25 - 34	13	12.1	38.3	17.5 - 59.1	4	21.1	*	*	17	13.5
35 - 44	8	7.5	24.8	7.6 – 42.0	2	10.5	*	*	10	7.9
45 - 54	6	5.6	24.4	4.9 - 43.9	0	0	*	*	6	4.8
55 - 64	2	1.9	*	*	4	21.1	*	*	6	4.8
65 - 74	2	1.9	*	*	1	5.3	*	*	3	2.4
85 +	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	*	0	0
Total Deaths	107	100			19	100			126	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.



Note: Some values are zero or not available due to low count so the lines appear "broken".

Table 15: Circumstances of Homicides in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007			
		Number	%
Event Circumstances			
	Other argument, abuse, or conflict	43	43.4
	Precipitated by another serious crime	33	33.3
	Intimate partner violence related	18	18.2
	Drug Involvement	9	9.1
	Argument over money or property	6	6.1
	Jealousy (lovers triangle)	5	5.1
	Gang related	2	2.0
Victim Characteristics			
	Victim used a weapon	17	17.2
	Justifiable self defense	9	9.1

*The denominator of the percentage is the total number of homicide victims who had circumstance data available. Each homicide victim may have anywhere from zero to many circumstances.

Table 16: Crimes Precipitating Homicides in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007			
	Male	Female	Total
	Number	Number	Number
Crime			
Robbery	13	1	14
Burglary	12	0	12
Drug Trade	6	0	6
Motor Vehicle Theft	4	0	4
Other	2	1	3
Arson	2	0	2
Rape, Sexual Assault	1	1	2
Assault, Homicide	2	0	2
Gambling	1	0	1

Table 17: Type of Weapon by Manner of Death in Robeson County, NC; 2004 - 2007

Weapon Type	Manner of Death										Total	
	Suicide		Homicide		Unintentional Firearm		Legal Intervention		Undetermined Intent			
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Firearm	39	69.6	102	81.0	2	100.0	1	100.0	1	20.0	145	76.3
Sharp Instrument	0	0	13	10.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	6.8
Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation	7	12.5	1	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	4.2
Poisoning	6	10.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	3.2
Unarmed Assault	0	0	5	4.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2.6
Blunt Instrument	0	0	4	3.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2.1
Fire or Burns	1	1.8	1	0.8	0	0	0	0	1	20.0	3	1.6
Other Transport Vehicle	3	5.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1.6
Fall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	20.0	1	0.5
Motor Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	20.0	1	0.5
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	20.0	1	0.5
Total Deaths	56	100	126	100	2	100	1	100	5	100	190	100

Table 18: Type of Firearm by Manner of Death in Robeson County, NC; 2004 – 2007
For Firearm Deaths Only

Firearm Type	Manner of Death											
	Suicide		Homicide		Unintentional Firearm		Legal Intervention		Undetermined Intent		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Handgun	23	59.0	71	69.6	0	0	1	100.0	1	100.0	96	66.2
Rifle	6	15.4	10	9.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	11.0
Shotgun	10	25.6	17	16.7	2	100.0	0	0	0	0	29	20.0
Unknown Firearm Type	0	0	4	3.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2.8
Total Deaths	39	100	102	100	2	100	1	100	1	100	145	100

GLOSSARY

Adult	Person was 18 years of age or older on date of death.
Child	Person was less than 18 years of age on date of death.
Legal intervention	Decedent was killed by a police officer or some other peace officer, including military police, acting in the line of duty. Includes legal executions.
Occurrent death	Death occurred in NC. Decedent may or may not have been a NC resident at the time of death.
Peace officer	Person with specified legal authority to use deadly force.
Rates	Calculated as count x 100,000/population.
Resident death	Victim was a NC resident at the time of death and the death occurred in NC. All deaths reported in this report are resident deaths.
Undetermined intent	A death resulting from the use of force or power against oneself or another person for which the evidence indicating the manner of death was not sufficient to determine intent.
Violent death	Intentional use of physical force or power against oneself, another person, or against a group or community. Deaths meeting this definition include suicides, homicides, and legal interventions.



State of North Carolina • Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Department of Health and Human Services
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary
Division of Public Health • Jeffrey P. Engel, State Health Director
Injury and Violence Prevention Branch

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